

# Health Care

## Rhode Island's Health Care Outlook for 2012

**Rhode Island employment is expected to increase by over 58,000 jobs during the 2002-2012 projection period. Employment in 2012 is projected to reach 563,909; an increase of 58,348 (11.5%) from the 2002 employment level of 505,561.**

The US Department of Labor has targeted twelve national level industry sectors or clusters as High Growth industries. Included on the US DOL list is Health Care, an industry cluster which is expected to add 3.5 million (+30%) new jobs between 2002 and 2012, accounting for 16 percent of the new jobs created on the national level.

Health Care has long been one of Rhode Island's faster growing industries. In recent years (1992 to 2002) Health Care has added more than 8,600 (15.3%) jobs to the Rhode Island economy, mainly due to gains in the private sector employment. Employment increases are attributed to a number of factors including an aging population, medical advances and new technologies.

During the 2002 to 2012 projection period, nearly one-quarter of the new jobs that are expected to be created in Rhode Island are projected to be in Health Care. Employment in Health Care is projected to reach 74,200, an increase of 13,751 (22.7%) from the 2002 level of 60,449 and nearly twice the growth rate expected for all industries in our state. Within the Health Care

sector, Ambulatory Health Care, Hospitals and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities are all expected to grow at above average rates.

Ambulatory Health Care Services include Outpatient Care Centers, Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories, Home Health Care Services, Ambulance Services and offices of Physicians, Dentists, and other Health Practitioners. This Health Care segment is projected to grow by 26.6 percent adding over 5,200 jobs accounting for 9 percent of the total job growth projected for all industries. In 2002 the average annual wage in this segment was \$41,930.

Included in the Nursing and Residential Care Facilities segment are: Nursing Homes, Residential Mental Retardation Facilities, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Facilities, Community Care Facilities for the Elderly and Assisted Living Facilities. Employment in this segment is expected to grow by 29.4 percent adding over 5,000 jobs during the projection period. Wages in this segment averaged \$23,275 in 2002.

### Health Employment by Industry Subsector

Sector Title	2002	2012	Numeric Change	Growth Rate	Percent Total Growth
<b>All Industries, Total *</b>	<b>505,561</b>	<b>563,909</b>	<b>58,348</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Health Care</b>	<b>60,449</b>	<b>74,200</b>	<b>13,751</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>23.6%</b>
Ambulatory Health Care Services	19,667	24,900	5,233	26.6%	9.0%
Hospitals	23,552	27,000	3,448	14.6%	5.9%
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	17,230	22,300	5,070	29.4%	8.7%

\* Includes wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family members, agricultural, and private household workers.

## Opportunities in Health Care by Occupation

During the 2002-2012 projection period, it is estimated that Health Care employers will need to find workers to fill over 25,000 job openings. Slightly more than half (54%) of the projected job openings are attributed to the economic growth that is expected to occur during the projection period. Health Care occupations with the highest growth rates include Social & Human Service Assistants, Medical Assistants and Physician Assistants.

Following is a list of the fastest growing jobs in Rhode Island's Health Care industry. It is projected that nearly 70 percent of the industry's job growth will occur among these thirty occupations.

Fastest Growing Jobs in Rhode Island Health Care				
Occupational Title	2002 Employment	2012 Projection	Growth Openings	Growth Rate
Health Care, Total	60,449	74,200	13,751	22.7%
Social and Human Service Assistants	867	1,416	549	63.3%
Medical Assistants	1,423	2,137	714	50.2%
Child Care Workers	132	191	59	44.7%
Physician Assistants	122	175	53	43.4%
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	527	747	220	41.7%
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	576	809	233	40.5%
Home Health Aides	2,523	3,517	994	39.4%
Physical Therapist Assistants	193	267	74	38.3%
Occupational Therapists	281	387	106	37.7%
Personal and Home Care Aides	1,005	1,384	379	37.7%
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	160	218	58	36.3%
Respiratory Therapists	240	325	85	35.4%
Emergency Medical Technicians/Paramedics	369	497	128	34.7%
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	448	603	155	34.6%
Rehabilitation Counselors	186	250	64	34.4%
Speech-Language Pathologists	154	206	52	33.8%
Physical Therapists	675	899	224	33.2%
Dental Hygienists	547	708	161	29.4%
Medical and Health Services Managers	757	979	222	29.3%
Dental Assistants	1,074	1,388	314	29.2%
Medical and Public Health Social Workers	208	266	58	27.9%
Recreation Workers	261	333	72	27.6%
Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	237	302	65	27.4%
General and Operations Managers	267	340	73	27.3%
Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	431	545	114	26.5%
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	467	590	123	26.3%
Registered Nurses	9,858	12,449	2,591	26.3%
Surgical Technologists	217	271	54	24.9%
Mental Health Counselors	492	611	119	24.2%
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	6,396	7,819	1,423	22.2%

## Health Care Occupations with the Highest Replacement Rates

In addition to the demand created by growth, it is estimated that Health Care establishments will need to find workers to fill nearly 12,000 vacancies resulting from attrition. Health Care occupations with the highest replacement rates include Respiratory Therapists, Dental Assistants, Optometrists and Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians. During the 2002 - 2012 projection period, Rhode Island Health establishments will need to find workers to fill over 25,000 jobs. Nearly half of these openings will occur among the following thirty occupations.

Jobs in Rhode Island Health Care with Highest Replacement Rates				
Occupational Title	2002 Employment	2012 Projection	Replacement Openings	Replacement Rate
<b>Total, All Occupations</b>	<b>60,449</b>	<b>74,200</b>	<b>11,706</b>	<b>19.4%</b>
Respiratory Therapists	240	325	79	32.9%
Dental Assistants	1,074	1,388	300	28.0%
Optometrists	139	162	39	27.7%
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	746	870	201	26.9%
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	362	407	98	26.9%
Dietitians and Nutritionists	141	166	37	26.0%
Speech-Language Pathologists	154	206	38	24.9%
Podiatrists	45	51	11	24.3%
Audiologists	70	92	17	24.2%
Recreational Therapists	64	65	15	23.9%
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,590	1,820	347	21.8%
Registered Nurses	9,858	12,449	2,063	20.9%
Pharmacists	205	242	40	19.4%
Chiropractors	29	36	5	18.9%
Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	160	218	30	18.7%
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	190	226	35	18.7%
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	97	119	18	18.7%
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	852	1,023	159	18.7%
Medical Assistants	1,423	2,137	263	18.5%
Medical Equipment Preparers	144	165	27	18.5%
Medical Transcriptionists	298	335	55	18.5%
Pharmacy Aides	20	22	4	18.5%
Social and Human Service Assistants	867	1,416	153	17.6%
Child, Family, and School Social Workers	527	747	90	17.1%
Medical and Public Health Social Workers	208	266	36	17.1%
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	448	603	77	17.1%
Dentists	292	285	49	16.8%
Physical Therapist Assistants	193	267	32	16.7%
Physical Therapist Aides	70	96	12	16.7%
Physician Assistants	122	175	19	15.4%



# Rhode Island Health Care High Demand Occupations 2002 - 2012

The top occupations with the greatest number of annual openings represent numerous opportunities for finding employment in the years ahead. They are considered “High Demand” occupations. It is projected that during the 2002-2012 period, employers will need to fill over 25,000 jobs resulting from employee turnover and economic growth expected in the Health Care Cluster. Over one quarter of the workers in Health Care are employed as Registered Nurses or Nursing Aides/Orderlies/Attendants. It is projected that demand for workers in these two occupations will be very strong due to both job growth and replacement needs accounting for nearly 30 percent of the total job openings that are expected in the Health Care industry.

Occupational Group	Employment		Openings Due to		Total
	2002	2012	Growth	Replacements	
<b>Health Care, Total</b>	<b>60,449</b>	<b>74,200</b>	<b>13,751</b>	<b>11,706</b>	<b>25,457</b>
Registered Nurses	9,858	12,449	2,591	2,063	4,654
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants	6,396	7,819	1,423	838	2,261
Home Health Aides	2,523	3,517	994	331	1,325
Medical Assistants	1,423	2,137	714	263	977
Social & Human Service Assistants	867	1,416	549	153	702
Medical Secretaries	2,501	2,700	199	479	678
Dental Assistants	1,074	1,388	314	300	614
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	1,590	1,820	231	347	578
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	1,267	1,573	306	266	572
Personal & Home Care Aides	1,005	1,384	379	161	540
Receptionists & Information Clerks	934	1,121	187	229	416
Medical & Health Services Managers	757	979	222	148	370
Radiologic Technologists & Technicians	852	1,023	171	159	330
Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists	746	870	124	201	325
Medical Records & Health Information Technicians	576	809	233	82	315
Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	1,121	1,225	104	210	314
Child, Family, & School Social Workers	527	747	220	90	310
Food Preparation Workers	667	732	65	236	301
Physical Therapists	675	899	224	66	290
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	711	857	146	132	278
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	448	603	155	77	232
Mental Health Counselors	492	611	119	112	231
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	1,135	1,114	14	217	231
Interviewers, Except Eligibility & Loan	420	533	113	108	221
Substance Abuse & Behavioral Disorder Counselors	431	545	114	98	212
Dental Hygienists	547	708	161	47	208
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	467	590	123	82	205

**Visit the LMI web site at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi)**

DLT is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aides & services are available on request to individuals with disabilities. TDD: (401) 462-8006